Appln. 10/040,743 Amendment dated Dec. 8, 2003 Response to Action dated Sept. 9, 2003

## **Amendments to the Claims:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Claim 1 (currently amended) A zirconium alloy comprising Nb 0.05-0.4 wt%, Nb 0.05-less than 0.3 wt%, Sn 0.3-0.7 wt%, Fe 0.1-0.4 wt%, Cu 0.01-0.2 wt%, Si 80-120 ppm, O 600-1400 ppm and Zr the balance.

Claim 2 (cancelled).

Claim 3 (original) The zirconium alloy according to claim 1, comprising Nb 0.2 wt%, Sn 0.5 wt%, Fe 0.2 wt%, Cu 0.1 wt%, Si 100 ppm, O 1200 ppm and Zr the balance.

Claim 4 (original) The zirconium alloy according to claim 1, further comprising Cr 0.05-0.2 wt%.

Claim 5 (cancelled).

Claim 6 (original) The zirconium alloy according to claim 4, comprising Nb 0.2 wt%, Sn 0.5 wt%, Fe 0.3 wt%, Cr 0.15 wt%, Cu 0.1 wt%, Si 100 ppm, O 1200 ppm and Zr the balance.

Claims 7-10 (cancelled).